GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:537
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2007
HIGHER EDUCATION TO RURAL YOUTH
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make higher education accessible to the rural youths and affordable for the poor students;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to attract better talent to the teaching profession?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Central Government, through the University Grants Commission (UGC), is implementing a number of schemes for the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Women, Minorities and other underprivileged sections of the society, including those in the rural areas. In addition, Indira Gandhi National Open University through its Open and Distance Learning format also reaches out to the rural youth. Subject to finalization of the 11th Plan, public investment in higher education would be increased substantially to provide affordable access to the weaker sections and remove regional imbalances.

(c): A Pay Review Committee has been constituted by the UGC to look into, among other things, ways and means for attracting and retaining talent in the teaching profession.